THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" For Rajapalayam a supplemental investigation has been sanctioned. For Srivilliputhur, I have already stated that the work is nearing completion. For Sivakasi there is no protected water-supply scheme in operation and investigation will be taken up in its turn in the priority list."

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHI :—" Is there any truth in the belief of the people that these underground drainages are responsible for typhoid in those areas? "

MR. CHAIRMAN :—" Exactly opposite."

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Underground drainage schemes cannot be responsible for typhoid. It is bad water that is responsible."

Extension of educational fee concessions to the children of peans in aided institutions.

* 270 Q.—SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance and Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to extend the educational fee concessions given to the children of teachers and clerks to the children of peons in aided institutions; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (a) & (b) Free education to the children of all persons having an income of Rs. 1,200 and below per annum is proposed to be introduced from 1955–56. All cases mentioned by the hon. Member will be covered by this concession."

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHI :—" Will Government kindly extend this concession so that children of peons may get free education from Forms IV to VI? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Sir, there are very many other cases also which will have to be considered. We have gone to the extent possible just now."

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHI :—" As only peons in aided institutions have been left out and peons in local body institutions and Government institutions are getting the concession and in view of the fact that the Government have come forward boldly to help the poor children in respect of education, will the Government kindly consider this case also because the cost will be low? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" What about the peons and other poor persons in other walks of life? We have to take into consideration every poor person. That is why without any consideration of categories we have just now introduced free scholarship for children of all persons coming within the income-group of Rs. 1,200. We shall consider further concessions later on."

Sri G. KRISHNAMOORTHI :—" Do the Government know that only one category of institutions called peons are denied this privilege, whereas clerks, teachers and others are given this privilege? "

The Hon. Sri C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Sir, that question will have to be considered later on. I am afraid we cannot give further concessions at this stage."

Levy of sales tax on foodstuffs.

* 271 *Q.*—Sri A. SUBRAMANYAM (on behalf of Sri T. V. Devaraja Mudaliyar) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is any proposal to discontinue the levy of sales tax on foodstuffs such as coconut and milk as was done in the case of onion, potatoes, plantain leaves and betel leaves; and

(*b*) if not, why not?

The Hon. Sri M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" (*a*) & (*b*) There is no proposal to exempt coconuts from levy of sales tax as it is considered that they are not perishables. The question of exempting milk from levy of sales tax is under the consideration of the Government."

Sri A SUBRAMANYAM :—" தேங்காய் அழுகிவிடுவதாலும், பால் கெட்டுவிடுவதாலும் அவைகளுக்கு ஏதாகிலும் இந்த வரியிலிருந்து விலக்கு அளிக்கப்படுமா என்பதுதான் என்னுடைய கேள்வி ? "

The Hon. Sri M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" Coconut is not such a perishable article as vegetables and fish."

Sri A. SUBRAMANYAM :—" சமீபத்தில் திருச்சிராப்பள்ளியில் நடைபெற்ற தேங்காய் வியாபாரிகள் மகாநாட்டில் நம்முடைய முதன் மந்திரி அவர்கள் இந்த வருஷ பட்ஜட் முடிவடைந்துவிட்டதால் அடுத்த வருஷம் கவனிப்பதாகக் கூறியிருக்கிறார். அடுத்த வருஷத்தில் இது விஷயத்தைக் கவனித்து வரியிலிருந்து விலக்கு அளிக்கப்படுமா என்று கேட்கிறேன்."

The Hon. Sri M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" அந்தமாதிரி சொல்லியிருக்கலாம். இந்த வருஷம் அநேக விஷயங்களை கவனிக்கவேண்டியிருக்கிறது. அடுத்த வருஷத்தைப்பற்றி பிறகு பார்த்துக் கொள்ளலாம் ? "

Sri MOHAMED RAZA KHAN :—" Apart from milk which the Government are considering to exempt from the levy of sales tax, are they considering the exemption of other perishable commodities? "

The Hon. Sri M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" Sir, only milk is under consideration."

Sri T. M. DAIVASIKHAMANI ACHARIAR :—" Will the Government consider the question of exempting perishable green chillies from sales tax? "

11-10 a.m. The Hon. Sri M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" We have already exempted certain vegetables from sales tax. I think the hon.